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S E C R E TREPORT NO 50X1 COUNTRY ~~East Germany/USSR~~ (None)

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SUBJECT Night School for Soviet Officers

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50X1

PLACE
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(LISTED BELOW)

50X1

DATE
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50X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION50X1

1. A night school for officers was held at the officers' club in Eberswalde, Soviet Zone of Germany, every night except Saturdays and Sundays. The school was run by civilian teachers brought from the USSR especially for this purpose. An officer could complete his education at this school. Attendance was voluntary; but it had become obligatory in the USSR for militia officers to have 10 years of education and, if within a given period, they had not completed their secondary education, they were to be demoted to the rank of sergeant. There were rumors that a similar drive to improve officers' standards of education was to be introduced into the Soviet Army. I do not think such a plan would be feasible, because so many Army officers had only five to seven years of education.
2. Regular Army NCO's could attend evening schools if they liked, but there were no facilities for draftees to improve their education.
3. German classes for officers were started some two years ago, and, a lot of publicity was given to the desirability of Soviet officers' learning German. It was later realized by the authorities that a knowledge of German would lead to increased fraternization with German women, and the German classes were gradually discontinued.

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